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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/761,609	01/16/2001	Andy L. Lee	174/188	5825

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EXAMINER

KIM, HONG CHONG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2186

DATE MAILED: 05/21/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/761,609

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

Hong C Kim

Art Unit

2186

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 15-18 and 29-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-14, 19-28 and 33-35 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 January 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

1. Claims 1-35 are presented for examination. This office action is in response to the application filed on 1/16/01.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Receipt is acknowledged of information disclosure statement filed on 4/11/01, which the statement has been placed of record in the file. Information disclosed and listed on PTO 1449 was considered.

Specification

3. Incorporated references's Serial Number and filed date are missing in the specification (e.g. pages 6 and 21).

Claim Objections

4. Claim 19 is objected to because of the following informalities: as to claim 19 "and" should be moved to after "a read clock signal". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

6. Claims 1-5, 15-18, and 29-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Camilleri et al. (Camilleri) U.S. Patent 6,434,642.

As to claim 1, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed. Camilleri discloses FIFO circuitry comprises first (Fig. 2 Ref 220) and second gray code counter (Fig. 2 Ref. 210) circuitries respectively counting write and read clock signals (Fig. 2 WCLK and RCLK), gray code subtractor circuitry (abstract bottom); and shift register circuitry (Fig. 1 Ref. 101) shifting in data word and outputting one of those data words.

As to claims 2-4, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed in the above. Camilleri further discloses detector circuitry, empty condition, and full condition (Fig. 1 Refs. 109 and 107).

As to claim 5, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed in the above. Camilleri further discloses first counter circuitry counts at twice the write clock rate (col.2 line 67,

asynchronous FIFO reads on this limitation, since the write rate is independent from the read rate).

As to claim 15, claim 15 is a rephrasing of claim 1 in a program logic device apparatus. The claim is rejected for the same reason as set forth above. Also Camilleri further discloses a program logic device (col. 6 lines 41+).

As to claim 16, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed in the claim 1. Camilleri further discloses a data processing system (Fig. 1, status control and flag control reads on this limitation).

As to claims 17 and 18, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed in the claim 16. Camilleri further discloses a printed circuit board (col. 4 line 24-26).

As to claim 29, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed. Camilleri discloses gray code subtractor circuitry (Fig. 2) comprises shift register circuitry and decoder circuitry receiving a second data signal (Fig. 2).

As to claims 30-31, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed in the above. Camilleri further discloses first and second circuities configured to produce data (Fig. 2).

As to claim 32, Camilleri discloses the invention as claimed in the above. Camilleri further discloses a first and second clocks (Fig. 2, RCLK and WCLK).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 6-12 and 33-35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 19-28 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the claim objection.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached PTO-892.

9. a shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 USC 133, MPEP 710.02, 710.02(b)).

10. When responding to the office action, Applicant is advised to clearly point out the

patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. He or she must also show how the amendments avoid such references or objections. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c).

11. When responding to the office action, Applicants are advised to provide the examiner with the line numbers and page numbers in the application and/or references cited to assist examiner to locate the appropriate paragraphs.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Hong Kim whose telephone number is (703) 305-3835. The Examiner can normally be reached on the weekdays from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Matt Kim, can be reached on (703) 305-3821.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

13. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to TC-2100:

After-Final (703) 746-7238

Official (703) 746-7239 (for formal communications intended for

entry)

Non-Official/Draft (703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

HK
Primary Patent Examiner
May 18, 2003

